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cal claims, but did not care for the fruits of victory. In point of fact the practical common sense of the Romans showed them that a small body like the senate made up of trained administrative officers who lived in Rome could settle the urgent and complicated questions raised by the subjugation and pacification of southern Italy, Spain, or Africa more wisely than a meeting of all the citizens could.

Another interesting point which is brought out in one of the chapters on the centuriate comitia is the failure of that body to pass any constitutional measure between 287 B. C. and the time of Sulla (cf. p. 236). Another still is the failure of the Romans to define clearly the field within which each assembly should legislate (p. 239). It is extraordinary that this vagueness in defining functions did not cause trouble when party strife was intense. In such circumstances a question might well have been settled in different ways by the different assemblies. Even if precedent assigned the weighty business to the centuriate and the less important matters to the tribal assembly, would the parties interested in the passage and defeat respectively of a given measure accept readily the classification and the consequent assignment which would imperil their cause? Yet we have no record, so far as I know, of any dispute on this subject, unless the transference of Clodius to a plebeian gens is a case in point.

We should have been glad to have a brief appendix from Professor Botsford on the comitia in the towns outside Rome. These bodies continued to meet after the Roman assemblies had died out, and many inscriptions record the results of their activity. From a study of these inscriptions, and especially from the ready made written charters of Salpensa and Malaca, which are cited in the chapter on comital procedure, some interesting conclusions might have been drawn with reference to the results of several centuries of practical experience in legislative and electoral matters at Rome. It is only, however, the admirable treatment which Professor Botsford has given to his chosen subject which makes us wish for this addition to his book¹.

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY.

FRANK FROST ABBOTT.

The Phormio of Terence, Simplified for the use of Schools. By H. R. Fairclough and L. J. Richardson. Pp. xiv + 117. Boston: B. H. Sanborn and Co. (1909).

This little book presents a most interesting experiment. The editors state that, for the sake of bringing some colloquial Latin within the reach of high school pupils, they have attempted "to adapt a play of Terence so as to eliminate, so far as possible, all ante-Ciceronian peculiarities. The metrical form of

the original is abandoned, and the order of words is slightly changed, so as to prevent the intrusion of verse rhythms. Archaic forms are altered to conform to later usage". On this basis, after a brief notice of Terence and an outline of the plot, the story is retold, with some condensation, in forty-eight pages of the simplified text. The rewriting does not seem very felicitous in some few places (verses 399-400, 426, 559, 790 of the original text); but difficulties that would trouble a young reader are, on the whole, skilfully smoothed away into easier phrasings.

Twenty-eight pages of notes follow the text. These are very brief, with somewhat full and elementary reference to our leading grammars. They are adequate in the main, though now and then they seem too brief or misleading, or are even utterly silent about difficulties (298-299, 559, 595, 801). The note on 119, *Non Si redisset, ei pater veniam daret*, refers with some detail to statements in our grammars about contrary to fact conditions; but we really have here a less vivid future thrown into past time, *without* the implication of being contrary to fact, for we know from the story that Demipho has *not returned yet*.

The vocabulary has a special mark against words not given in Lodge's Vocabulary of High School Latin, and it indicates such words as are found in Caesar or in Cicero, though not in Lodge's list. Under *do*, no mention is made of the meaning 'put', which is needed for verse 625.

It is to be regretted that the editors have numbered the lines of each act of their version separately, instead of adopting one consecutive numbering. Double numbers (e. g. Act V, line 33) are not only needless, but an actual hindrance, and are always a nuisance to any reader or student.

This innovation, then, has in the main been cleverly carried out. The lover of Terence will of course miss the metrical form and the archaic flavor of the real Terence; but it is not for such as he that this book has been written. The real Terence is obviously beyond the capabilities of high school pupils; in these days, when so many teachers are voicing their dissatisfaction with the narrow range of High School Latin, and are urging an increased attention to other authors and to reading at sight, the appearance of a book like this seems very opportune. It is to be hoped that it may indeed "meet a real need".

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY.

ARTHUR W. HODGMAN.

THE CLASSICAL ASSOCIATION OF PITTSBURGH AND VICINITY

Saturday, February 26th, was a bright day in the history of The Classical Association of Pittsburgh and Vicinity, not because the meeting was

¹ Parts of this review appeared in the January number of The American Historical Review; they are printed here through the courtesy of the editors of the Review. C. K.